

Creative Case NORTH Review: Testing the Temperature Call for Expressions of Interest

Creative Case NORTH is inviting expressions of interest from individuals, organisations and academic institutions interested in undertaking a review of 2012 – 15 North Area activity around the Creative Case for Diversity.

The review will analyse quantitative and qualitative data in order to provide a summative report drawing out key themes, identifying shifts in thinking/approaches, the legacy of the activity, and potential areas for further research.

The aim/future use of the report will be to:

- Identify achievements of North Area Creative Case activity;
- Inform future work of the Creative Case NORTH Consortium;
- Inform future research around the Creative Case for Diversity in a North Area context;
- To advocate the work of the Creative Case NORTH Consortium within Arts Council; England, across the North Area, nationally and internationally.

This will be done by:

- Mapping of activity and engagement from 2012 - 15;
- Reviewing and drawing together of data;
- Interviews with members of Creative Case NORTH Consortium, Arts Council England staff and other individuals who have been involved (number to be negotiated);

Data available:

- Arts Council England briefing documents
- Programme outlines/plans
- Event delegate lists
- Delegate feedback
- Residency/Exploration proposals
- Transcripts of Residency/Exploration pecha kucha presentations
- Transcripts of evaluation discussions with Residency/Exploration partners
- Transcripts of Long Table Discussions
- Notes from Creative Case Conversations (small group discussions in Dynamic Facilitation style)
- 5 pieces of poetry created responding to conversations at events
- Graphic documentation of 2013-14 events
- Evaluation reports from each programme of activity.

Timeline

- Deadline for expressions of interest 9am Mon 16 March;
- Interested parties notified of interviews Thursday 19 March;
- Interviews held on the afternoon of Tuesday 24 March at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead
- Interested parties informed of outcomes Fri 27 March;
- Contract and first payment issued week 30 March – 2 April;
- Completed report due Friday 29 May;
- Final payment following delivery of report.

Fee:

£4000 fee and £200 travel expenses - inclusive of VAT

Expressions of Interest:

Expressions of interest should be no more than 3 sides of A4 outlining the following:

- Name of individual/s or organisation
- Contact details – address, email & telephone
- Name & contact details of project lead
- Details of relevant experience
- Outline of anticipated approach & timeline
- Referees x 2

Please email your expression of interest to north@zendeh.com by 9am Monday 16 March – please use 'Testing the Temperature Expression of Interest' as your email subject.

Selection Interviews:

Interviews will take place at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, on the afternoon of Tuesday 24 March 2015. Return travel will be refunded for 1 representative per interview on completion of expense claim.

Contacts:

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The Creative Case for Diversity

The Creative Case is the Arts Council's approach to diversity and equality, setting out how diversity and equality can enrich the arts for artists, audiences and our wider society. Through the Creative Case the Arts Council is inviting the arts sector to engage with a new and different approach to diversity and equality in the arts.

By diversity we mean the multitude of ethnicities, faiths and socio-economic classes that make up modern England. This concept of diversity includes disabled people, older people and people of all sexual orientations. The geography of diversity spans England's regions, from the most rural to the inner city.

Our national diversity offers new opportunities for collaboration, from creative partnerships to sources of revenue. This arts-driven concept of diversity as opportunity represents a shift in perspective, from regarding diversity as a prescriptive aspect of equality legislation to understanding its creative potential and the ways in which it can promote long-term organisational resilience.

In moving away from a 'deficit' and 'problematizing' approach to diversity, the Arts Council wishes to encourage those they fund and partner to be responsible for creating the conditions on the ground for further equality in the arts. Diversity is an integral part of the artistic process, an important element in the dynamic that drives art forward, innovates it and brings it closer to a profound dialogue with contemporary society.

The Creative Case recognises that art placed in the margins through structural barriers and antiquated and exclusive approaches has to be brought to the centre of our culture and valued accordingly. The three interlocking progressions of Creative Case are:

For full information published by Arts Council England around the Creative Case for Diversity visit: [http://disabilityarts.creativecase.org.uk/Creative Case for Diversity](http://disabilityarts.creativecase.org.uk/Creative_Case_for_Diversity)

Creative Case NORTH

Creative Case NORTH is a programme of sector led activity exploring the Creative Case for Diversity, developed by a consortium of arts and cultural organisations convened by Arts Council England from across the North area, including:

Creative Case NORTH Partners: Alchemy, ARC Stockton, Artlink, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Contact Theatre, Contemporary Visual Arts Network, Freedom Festival, GemArts, STAY, ZENDEH.

Creative Case NORTH Critical Friends: Open Clasp, Prism Arts, Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums.

Creative Case NORTH 2014-15 is the third phase of sector-led activity.

Initial activity took place in Yorkshire, North West and North East in **2012-13**, encompassing events ranging from artist provocations, workshops and open space discussions, to presentation of innovative artistic work, and strategic research and development.

Creative Case NORTH

Reflections were of a positive journey, from initial feelings of nervousness, fear and even frustration ('are we still talking about this?'), to one of excitement and hope that momentum was being created and could be maintained. There was a common feeling that a 'tipping point' may have been reached that involved a shift in ownership of the issues and opportunities of the Creative Case – from an Arts Council-led agenda, to one more owned by the sector.

Creative Case NORTH 2013-14 was programmed and managed by a North Area sector-led Consortium. The programme facilitated continued exploration of the Creative Case, with a focus on partnership models between creators and facilitators of artistic, cultural and participatory practice, and the range of spaces in which they make and share work with the public.

Events brought together National Portfolio Organisations (NPO), Major Partner Museums (MPM), arts organisations, freelance artists, and a range of strategic partners to share exemplars of best practice in partnership working, and mutually explore one another's practice through shared enquiry. Creative Case NORTH Residencies seeded 4 partnerships, demonstrating tangible exploration of the Creative Case and laying down foundations for future collaboration and longer term plans.

Delegate feedback indicated a growing desire and willingness within the arts and cultural sector to action change around the Creative Case for Diversity, with delegates pledging actions themed around conversations, partnerships, programming and commissioning.

Creative Case NORTH 2014-15 is the current programme of activity and has developed from the ambition amongst Creative Case NORTH Consortium Partners to capitalise on the energy and momentum that investment to date has enabled, and continue developing the growing sense of community around the Creative Case for Diversity within the North Area.

The core programme of activity is:

Creative Case NORTH Dialogues: Financial honorariums facilitating practical peer to peer sessions relating to National Portfolio Organisation and Major Partner Museum 2015-18 Business Planning activity, encouraging dynamic sharing of knowledge, building of confidence, and explorations of potential partnerships.

Creative Case NORTH Explorations (Residencies): 6 partnerships pairings, providing time and space to undertake mutual exploration and shared enquiry of partnership practice within the context of the Creative Case for Diversity, bringing together partners across art form/museum, spectrum of scale, and level of experience.

Creative Case NORTH Gatherings: 2 North Area events to share learning from Creative Case NORTH Dialogues and Explorations, and explore ambitions for next steps in the North Area through a Long Table discussion.